



Bureau of Automotive Repair

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July 16, 2007

Ms. Mary D. Nichols, Chairman
California Air Resources Board
P. O. Box 2815
Sacramento, CA 95812

Dear Ms. Nichols,

The Bureau of Automotive Repair ("Bureau") is committed to working with the Air Resources Board ("Board") to obtain additional emission reductions through regulatory and/or legislative changes to the California Smog Check Program ("Program") as outlined in the proposed 2007 State Implementation Plan (SIP). It is further understood that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has asked the Bureau to describe how it will implement these Program changes. At this time, the Bureau plans to (1) continue to actively work with the Board to incorporate requested changes to the Program within the confines of existing statutory authority, including working with the Board on any needed legislation to broaden the Program, and (2) expeditiously implement future legislative changes to the Program.

As the national air quality standards become even more stringent, additional efforts to reduce motor vehicle emissions will be necessary, a fact the proposed 2007 SIP anticipates. As a result, new tests and additional vehicle types may be added to the Program in efforts to reduce excess emissions from California's vehicles. The Bureau understands that the anticipated emission reductions from improvements to the Program are part of a larger enforceable obligation contained in the proposed 2007 SIP. Therefore, the Bureau will ensure best efforts to obtain the emission reductions for each of the Program concepts outlined in the proposed SIP that the Bureau has legal authority and has determined feasible to implement.

However, if a particular concept falls short of its emission reduction target, the Bureau will work with the Board in obtaining the reductions through implementation of other permissible Program modifications. If Program improvements in total ultimately achieve less emission reductions than estimated in the SIP, the Bureau understands that the state is still legally bound to achieve the total aggregate emission reduction obligations contained in the SIP. Any outstanding reductions could be realized through additional measures, alternative control concepts or incentive programs not limited to the Program.

If you have any questions, or would like to discuss our commitment, please call me at (916) 255-4300.

Sincerely,

Sherry Mehl, Chief
Bureau of Automotive Repair

cc: Rosario Marin, Secretary
State and Consumer Services Agency

Carrie Lopez, Director
Department of Consumer Affairs